

National optical cables require special protection

Overview

The Undersea Cable Protection Act of 2025 streamlines the installation and operation of undersea fiber optic cables in national marine sanctuaries. It prevents the Secretary of Commerce from imposing duplicative permitting requirements if federal or state authorization is already in place. The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom the bill was referred, unanimously passed it (H. Every single vote in favor was Republican. These vulnerabilities undermine the security and reliability of the systems we rely on every day," Fedorchak said. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for use in complying with NRC regulations that address the environmental qualification (EQ) of fiber-optic cables, connections, and optical fiber splices in safety. The laying and placement of submarine cables require coordination, and the installation, maintenance, repair, and removal of cables in certain areas may have an adverse impact on cables already in place, as well as on fishing, navigation, the marine environment, and other valuable resources such as.



Article Content

Apr 25, 2026

Submarine Cables

To help ensure the coordination of cable placement and mitigation of any adverse impacts, several U.S. agencies have legal authority to regulate the laying and maintenance of cables off our nation's shores.

Dec 25, 2025

DG-1427 (RG 1.257 Rev 0) Qualification of Fiber-Optic Cables

This RG describes a method acceptable to the NRC staff for complying with the regulations for the qualification of fiber-optic cables, connections, and optical fiber splices in safety systems in ...

Apr 28, 2026

Fedorchak votes to reform undersea cable deployment, strengthen ...

"Undersea cables are core national security infrastructure, but duplicative federal permitting regulations have made them harder to deploy, protect, and repair. These vulnerabilities ...

Mar 24, 2026

Safeguarding Subsea Cables: Protecting Cyber Infrastructure amid

This paper addresses how the United States and its allies can more strategically compete with Chinese and Russian threats to subsea cables and reduce the vulnerability of cable ...

Oct 29, 2025

International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC)

Founded in 1958, the International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC) is the world's leading organisation promoting submarine cable protection and resilience. The ICPC provides a forum in ...

Mar 19, 2026

eCFR :: 7 CFR 1755.903 -

Cable meeting this section is recommended for fiber optic service entrances having 12 or fewer fibers with distances less than 100 meters (300 feet). (1) General. (i) Specification requirements are given ...

May 16, 2026

Undersea Cable Protection Act Passes House 2025

The House squeezed H.R. 261 — the Undersea Cable Protection Act of 2025 through on a 218–212 vote, sending a bill to the Senate that would strip NOAA of its authority to require permits ...

Jul 01, 2026

H.R. 261: Undersea Cable Protection Act of 2025

Prohibition on prohibiting, or requiring permits or other authorizations for, undersea fiber optic cables authorized by a Federal or State agency.

Oct 08, 2025

Article 770: Optical Fiber Cables

Cables installed exposed on the surface of ceilings and sidewalls shall be supported by approved non-combustible straps, staples, cable ties, hangers, or similar fittings and related installation accessories ...

Jun 16, 2026

Optical Fiber Cable | Captain Code 2020 Web Portal

Optical fiber cables are not limited to communications installations and need protection against physical damage regardless of whether they can be a shock hazard or not.

Aug 07, 2025

H.R. 261

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Aug 13, 2025

R E P O R T

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 261) to amend the National Marine Sanctuaries Act to prohibit requiring an authorization for the installation, continued presence, ...

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For more information, pricing, or custom solutions, please contact us:

Website: <https://www.iiss.co.za>

Email: sales@iiss.co.za

Phone: +27 63 174 2895

Address: Unit 8, Innovation Park, 15 Rivonia Road, Sandton, Johannesburg,
2196, South Africa

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